

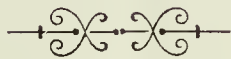
ANNUAL REPORT

OF

Medical Officer of Health

FOR

HIPPERHOLME URBAN DISTRICT.



HALIFAX :

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FEBRUARY, 1899.

*To Hipperholme Urban District
Council.*

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in laying before you my report for the year 1898. It embraces (1) statistics of births, deaths, infectious diseases, &c.; (2) remarks on sanitary and other relative matters; and (3) tables referring to various subjects.

Area and Population.—(a) The area of the district is 1138 acres.

(b) The population according to the census of 1891 was 3,309; and the "estimated population" up to the middle of 1898 was calculated by me to be 3,600. For the year 1897 I had estimated the population as 3,540; the County Medical Officer, in an abstract of his report for that year lately to hand, placed the number at 3,567.

Births.—During the year there were registered 80 births, comprising 42 males, and 38 females. Of this number 2 were illegitimate. In the first quarter there were 17 registered; in the second quarter, 21; in the third quarter, 16; and in the fourth quarter, 26. As regards sex, the average proportion for the year is—males, 52.5 per cent.; females, 47.5; as

compared with males, 46 per cent., and females, 54 per cent. in the preceding year. From the table which follows it will be seen that this sex-proportion varies very much from year to year.

The **Birth-rate** per annum is 22·5 per 1,000, which is slightly lower than that of 1897. The total rate in the West Riding for the latter year was 30·5 per 1,000.

Table I.—(Births).

Year.		Males		Females.		Total.		Rate per 1000 per annum.
1889	...	39	...	37	...	76	...	23·1
1890	...	40	...	38	...	78	...	23·2
1891	...	45	...	28	...	73	...	22·
1892	...	51	...	41	...	92	...	27·4
1893	...	41	...	45	...	86	...	25·3
1894	...	38	...	36	...	74	...	21·5
1895	...	43	...	26	...	69	...	20·2
1896	...	33	...	38	...	71	..	20·8
1897	...	38	...	45	...	83	...	23·4
1898	...	42	...	38	...	80	...	22·5

Deaths.—The deaths numbered 48, 22 of males, and 26 of females. The *annual rate* per 1000 is 13·2 as compared with 9·9 in 1897. The rate for the West Riding for the year 1897 was 17· per 1000; the average rate of this district for the last decade is 15·7 (*see table which follows*). The mortality during the year was as follows for each quarter:—first quarter, 15; second quarter, 9; third quarter, 10; fourth quarter, 14. In analysing the numbers in the various age-periods, I find that 10 died in infancy, 2 between one and five years of age, 1 between the ages of five and fifteen, 1 between the ages of fifteen and twenty-five, 22 between the ages of twenty-five and sixty-five, while 12 had attained to the age of sixty-five and upwards.

Table II.—(Deaths).

Year.		Males.		Females.		Total.		Rate per 1000 per annum.
1889	...	30	...	30	...	60	...	18·2
1890	...	31	...	30	...	61	...	18·2
1891	...	42	...	22	...	64	...	19·3
1892	...	28	...	21	...	49	...	14·6
1893	...	32	...	27	...	59	...	17·6
1894	...	24	...	20	...	44	...	12·8
1895	...	29	...	23	...	52	...	15·15
1896	...	35	...	27	...	62	...	18·2
1897	...	22	...	13	...	35	...	9·9
1898	...	22	...	26	...	48	...	13·2

Among the *chief causes* of death were:—

(a) *PHTHISIS OR CONSUMPTION*.—Five persons died from this disease, of whom four were male and one female. The rate per thousand is 1·4, as compared with 1·7 in 1897, ·9 in 1896, and 1·4 in 1895.

(b) *RESPIRATORY DISEASES*.—There were six deaths due to diseases of the lungs and bronchial tubes, and they occurred in the first, third, and fourth quarters. The rate under this heading (including Phthisis) is 3· per 1000; in 1897 it was 4· per 1000; in 1896 it was 4·4 per 1000.

(c) *HEART DISEASE*.—Nine deaths were due to disease of this organ.

(d) *DISEASES OF LIVER, STOMACH, AND BOWELS*.—Three deaths appear under this heading.

(e) *DIARRHŒA*.—Two persons died from this disease. In the previous year it was a blank return.

(f) *DISEASES OF KIDNEYS*.—There was one death from disease of the Kidneys, as compared with two in 1897.

(g) *DISEASES OF NERVOUS SYSTEM*.—Five deaths were registered here as against two in the year 1897.

(h) ENTERIC OR TYPHOID FEVER.—Four persons succumbed to this fever; this matter is referred to again.

(i) CANCER.—One death from malignant disease of throat was registered; but whether it was of a cancerous nature I cannot say.

(j) INJURIES, SUICIDES, &c.—One death from drowning (that of a non-resident) comes under this category.

Infant Mortality.—Ten infants died during the year, as compared with 5 in 1897, and 19 in 1896. Four of these deaths were registered in the first quarter, three in the second quarter, one in the third quarter, and two in the fourth quarter. The causes of death were so varied that I reproduce them, viz.:—Congestion of Lungs, Pneumonia, Atelectasis (*i.e.* imperfect expansion of lungs), Laryngismus Stridulus (*i.e.* false croup), Convulsions, Premature Birth (2) Congenital Heart Disease, Peritonitis, and Meningitis. The rate of mortality per 1000 of registered births is 125; in 1897 it was 60·2, in 1896 it was 267·6. In previous reports I have pointed out the great difficulty which one encounters in the attempt to reconcile any reasonable explanations of the cause of this infant mortality, varying as it does from year to year; and in scanning over the list of causes which I have just given, it would appear that there are many productive agencies at work.

Zymotic Death-rate.—There were six deaths due to Zymotic Disease, viz.:—Enteric Fever 4, Diarrhoea 2. The rate for the year is 1·66 per 1000, as compared with ·28 in 1897, 2· in 1896, ·6 in 1895, and 1·4 in 1894.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Notifications.—The number reported to me was 17; viz.:—Scarlet Fever 5; Enteric Fever 7; Continued Fever 1; Erysipelas 4. The following table shows the number of

Infectious Diseases reported in this district since the adoption of the Compulsory Notification Act in 1890.

Table III.—(Infectious Diseases).

Year.	Small Pox.	Diphtheria.	Croup.	Erysipelas.	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Continued Fever.	Total.
1890	...	...	...	2	2	1	...	5
1891	...	...	...	2	13	1	...	16
1892	54	...	...	3	11	...	1	69
1893	3	2	...	3	1	2	...	11
1894	...	...	...	2	15	4	...	21
1895	...	...	...	...	3	4	1	8
1896	...	...	...	2	24	5	5	36
1897	...	...	3	4	28	1	...	36
1898	...	...	...	4	5	7	1	17

SMALL-POX.—Since 1893 the district has been clear of this disease. Here I may remark that vaccination is practically neglected.

CHICKEN-POX.—Several children suffered from this complaint during the earlier months of the year.

SCARLET FEVER OR SCARLATINA.—Five cases were reported to me. One case occurred in Lightcliffe in March, and we discovered that the infection was brought to the house by a relative from Leeds. Another in Bailiffe Bridge was notified in October, and three in the same house (one an adult) in the lower part of Lightcliffe. All seem to have been of a mild type, and as this fever had been prevalent in the North Bierley district, where the children attended school, I believe the source of infection lay there.

Enteric or Typhoid Fever.—Seven persons, all of whom were adults, were certified as suffering from this fever. The first case in July was notified from Bailiffe Bridge, but,

owing to delay caused by wrong postal address, the certificate did not reach me until after the death of the patient. Another case in Sunnyside was reported in the same month, and in this instance the disease was supposed to be due to eating some unwholesome food at Sheffield; this patient also died seven days after notification. In the month of September, a mild case occurred in the Crescent. In October a fourth case in Lightcliffe was reported, and as this person had recently returned from a holiday in Belfast, where Typhoid Fever was at the time prevalent, we came to the conclusion that the disease was contracted there. Towards the end of October also, three persons residing at Lane End Terrace and Lane End Green, Hipperholme, contracted this fever, but the certificates were rather late in being received, as the diagnosis in at least two cases, was first Influenza, then Pneumonia, and lastly, Typhoid Fever. Two of those three persons died, and one was removed to the Hospital.

With reference to the houses in which this fever was present, I have to remark that no glaring sanitary defect was found to account for the outbreak; and probably the long period of dry weather was an important causative factor.

Continued Fever.—One case returned as Continued Fever occurred at Hipperholme Station-house. The surroundings were in a somewhat insanitary condition, but this state of matters was speedily remedied by the Railway Company.

Diphtheria.—No notification under this heading has been received since 1893.

Measles.—A few cases occurred in January, February, and March; and adults as well as children were attacked by the disease. In April it had become epidemic in Hipperholme, and the Infant School was closed for a fortnight in consequence. By way of contrast I may here point out that most of the cases of Measles were found in Hipperholme,

while all the cases of Scarlet Fever were confined to the other end of the district.

Whooping Cough.—In the month of August several children were affected with this complaint.

Diarrhœa.—This was more prevalent than in former years ; one infant and one adult died from the disease.

Erysipelas.—There were four notifications received ; all the cases were of the type which is known as “idiopathic.”

Influenza.—This was present in the district in spring, but it was not of so virulent a character as that of former years. No death was recorded.

Inspections.—The whole district has been inspected systematically by the Sanitary Inspector, and along with him I have also visited and examined such houses, works, and localities, as required special attention.

Isolation Hospital.—This hospital which is situated in Clifton, has been open for about six months for the reception of persons suffering from the principal infectious diseases, Small-pox excepted. One patient suffering from Typhoid Fever was removed there for treatment. The disinfection of bedding used by infected persons who are treated at their own houses, has been done by the hospital authorities when required.

Water Supply.—Upon the whole this is satisfactory, and during the long period of drought in summer, it held out well when other localities had only short supplies. Complaints about dirty water, unfit for domestic purposes, have, however, been received from Gaythorn Terrace and Bramley Lane.

Sewerage, Drainage, &c.—The Sewage-tanks at Bailiffe Bridge have been in good working order during the year ; they are attended to daily by the staff of the Authority, and samples of the effluent show that good results are being accomplished. The whole drainage system seems now to be greatly improved. I have here, however, to mention that several complaints have been made about foul stench

arising from the imperfect management of the filtering apparatus attached to the tanneries; the matter has been brought to the notice of the proprietors, and it is to be hoped that more attention will be devoted by them to the abatement of such unnecessary nuisances.

Scavenging and Refuse Removal.—This work is let to contractors who act under the instructions of the Surveyor; and householders need run no risk from the overfilling of middens or ashpits if they will give due notice to this official. Several structural improvements in ashpits have been carried out during the year.

Slaughter House.—There is one registered Slaughter-house, which is kept clean and orderly.

Bake Houses.—There are three in the district. They are conducted in a satisfactory manner.

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milk-shops Order.—Since the adoption of this order many improvements have been carried out; and the matter is still being actively attended to by the Inspector. Much has yet to be done in this department, and the great importance of the subject, as emphasized by the press and the profession generally, demands that defaults in this direction should be remedied without fail.

Workshops.—Those places are visited from time to time, and I have to report that they are all kept in a satisfactory condition and that no complaints have had to be made.

The Sanitary Inspector reports for the year as follows:—

No. of inspections made	..	..	500
„ house-drains repaired, &c.	..	..	25
„ „ new, provided	..	..	23
„ w.cs., privies repaired, &c.	..	..	12
„ „ new, provided	..	..	31
„ ashpits repaired, &c.	..	..	8
slaughter-houses inspected	..	..	1

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

RICHARD DAVIDSON, M.D., Edin., M.A.,

Medical Officer of Health.

Infectious Diseases reported in this district since the adoption of the Compulsory Notification Act in 1890.

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TABLE B.

TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the year 1898, in the Hipperholme Urban District; classified according to Diseases. Ages and Localities.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; Public Institutions being shown as separate localities.	Population at all Ages.			Registered Births.	Aged under 5 or over 5.	New Cases of Sickness in each locality, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health.					Number of such Cases removed from their Homes in the several Localities for Treatment in Isolation Hospital.
	Last Census.	Estimated to middle of 1898.	Fevers			Scarlatina.	Erysipelas.				
			(b)				(c.)	Enteric or Typhoid.	Continued		
(a)	(b)	(c.)	(d.)	(e.)							
Whole Locality.	3309	3600	80	Under 5 5 upwards.	0 5	0 7	0 1	0 4	0 1	0 1	Enteric or Typhoid.

TABLE C.

HIPPERHOLME URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT.

Medical Officer of Health - R. DAVIDSON, M.D., Edin.

Sanitary Inspector - Mr. JOHN SYKES.

Water Supply—

Quality—Good. Action on Lead—Nil. Any extensions or change during 1898?—No. Any inadequacy in any part?—No.

Scavenging—

Are the privy-middens, etc., cleansed by Sanitary staff, by Contractors, or by Owners and Tenants?—Contractors. If scavenging undertaken by District Council, what was the annual cost during 1898?—about £65.

Adoptive Acts—

What was the amount paid to practitioners under the Infectious Disease (Notification) Act during 1898?—£1 15s. od.

By-Laws—

Any adopted or sanctioned during 1898?—By-laws relating to back streets.

Regulated Buildings, Trades, &c.	Number		General Condition?	Legal Proceedings (if any.)
	Regis-tered.	Inspect-ed.		
COMMON LODGING HOUSES	0			
CANAL BOATS	0			
SLAUGHTER HOUSES	1	1	Clean.	
BAKEHOUSES	3	3	Satisfactory.	
{ DAIRIES				NONE.
{ COWSHEDS	19	19	Gradually being im- proved.	
{ MILKSHOPS				
OFFENSIVE TRADES (Please specify nature.)	3	3	(Tanneries). Require more attention.	

Isolation Hospital—

Clifton (Joint) Brighthouse

Dwellings—

Number of Houses built during 1898—23. General character—Stone : Villas and Cottages. Any houses unfit for habitation—No. Any overcrowding of persons in houses?—No. Any overcrowding of houses on area?—No.

Miscellaneous—

Is House-to-house Inspection systematically made?—Yes.

Total No. of Nuisances in hand at close of 1897—2 At close of 1898—None. Reported during 1898—20. Abated during 1898—20.

Total No. of Summonses or other legal proceedings—None.

No. of Sink wastes disconnected during 1898—10.

No. of Sink wastes trapped during 1898—10.

No. of Closets constructed during 1898—31. Kinds—W.C. and Dry Ashpit.

Any information as to number of deaths from cancer of all kinds during 1898?—No death.

Any information as to number of deaths from Tabes Mesenterica?—No death.

Vaccination - General efficiency—Practically neglected.

What action has been taken in regard to the following matters?—

Seizure of Unsound Food—None.

Samples under Sale of Food and Drugs Acts—None.

River Pollution—Tanneries and mill treating waste by filtering, &c., tanks.

Inspection of Factories and Workshops—No complaints.

Schools—No. in District—3. No. closed on account of outbreaks of disease—1. Total duration of closure from this cause—Fortnight.

Burial Grounds—No. in District—1. Any need for extension?—No.

Births—

Males—42. Females—38. Total—80. Number illegitimate, included in the above—2. Any information as to Still Births—No.

Deaths—

Males—22. Females—26. Total—48.

RATEABLE VALUE. as stated in Valuation List.	Value upon which the General District Rule is Assessed.		Rate in the £ 1897
	Full Rateable Value (Houses, etc.)	One-fourth Rateable Value (Land, etc.)	
(1)	(2)	(3)	
£21,503 5 0	£15,459 5 0	£1,511 0 0	3/-